

# THE OLD TIMER'S BULLETIN

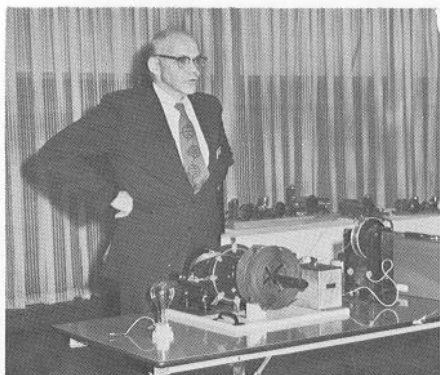
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Vol. 6

FALL - 1965

No. 3



Chuck Brelsford (K2WW) demonstrating 1000 watts spark transmitter at Syracuse. Not seen in picture is display of antique gear brought to meet by Bob O'Neil, K2AXE.

## THE CENTER PAGES

of this bulletin were originally part of the monthly paper printed by the Rochester Amateur Radio Association. This description of the A.W.A. created so much interest we are reprinting for you...

A.W.A. FALL MEET - was held in Syracuse, N.Y. (Oct. 30th) in conjunction with the Syracuse Club. A turnout of 100 old timers and wives enjoyed an evening of entertainment which included K2WW unvieling the old 1 KW spark set originally used at Dennison University Radio Club station 8YM (tks to W3CBN). After a lot of light dimming and crashing the group saw for the first time a condensed version of the club's new show "The Golden Twenties". Gil Crossley, W3YA, reminisced on the old days making it another successful meet.

## UNUSUAL ATWATER-KENT MODEL 5A

Here's a rare one which can be seen at the club's museum. The property of Harold Swart, W8MCC, it was recently restored and photographed by Lincoln Cundall, W2QY. The unique feature is obviously the round 5 tube control unit - most models of this period usually have 2 or 3 tube units. The circuit: 2 RF, a Det. and 2 Audio.....from here on - we'll let you figure it out !





#### ANTIQUE GEAR AT WEST GULF CONVENTION

Old gear appears to arouse as much if not more attention than the new stuff at amateur events. This was verified again when the above equipment was displayed by W5WI and others at the West Gulf ARRL convention...Pictured in the foto are W5HUI left and Oren Gambill, W5WI right.

#### REPORT ON SUMMER MEET

Aug. 14, Holcomb, N.Y.

The "get-to-gether" proved quite successful with members attending from 6 states (Conn., R.I., N.J., N.Y., Penna. and Ill.). Many arrived early and toured the club's museum Friday night and attended the New York Steam Engine Pageant show the following day.

Following a dinner at the Holloway House Saturday evening, the usual introductions were made. New members who had not attended former gatherings included Bud Fischer (New Jersey) and Ralph Barnett (Illinois) with their XYL's. Pres. Batterson introduced the Guest of Honor - Charles Walters, Pres. of the Chamber of Commerce and the Seneca-Gorham Telephone Company who told of the need of a public science museum in the area. He was followed by an un-expected guest - Charles Barker who turned out to be a pioneer wireless operator for United Wireless (1910) and many other early companies. He presented the A.W.A. a very early French wireless key (1913) of unusual design once owned by another pioneer - Nelson Holt.

Ken Conrad (W2IIE) presented W2GB his latest restoration which turned out to be George's CRL receiver of 1921! Then W2QY displayed his latest restoration - W8MCC's Atwater-Kent - a very rare model having 5 tubes in one round unit. (see photo). Last to be shown was the WWI British receiver from K1WNU/W1MPP which aroused considerable interest among the collectors present. The "gang" adjourned to the Museum to look at old gear, tell yarns, etc...

COLLECTING IN AUSTRALIA- Fin Stewart tells us there is little interest in historical radio in Australia and New Zealand. There are only 2 or 3 collectors in Australia and he knows of only one in New Zealand. Fin mentions a nice collection of tubes and other apparatus at the Sidney Technical Museum; however, it is seldom all on display.

Another new member in Australia is Norman Burton (130 River Rd., Revesby, N.S.W.) Norm writes an extremely interesting letter telling of the early stations in his country. He tells of the first official station in Australia - a Telefunken installation built in 1912. The 400 foot antenna masts remained until only a few years ago when they were demolished. He has written an article on early wireless in Australia which may be published in the near future.

Norm is very interested in the recording of early signals and laments the fact that many of the famous pioneer stations were not disc recorded. He tells us that POZ (Nauen) of WWI fame was copied in Australia and New Zealand with only a galena detector and microphone amplifier. Burt's hobby is the history of early German equipment of which he has quite a file on. He spends a great deal of time listening to both long and shortwave stations. Longwave and coastal stations are of special interest as they come in from all over the world! NAA comes in 24 hours a day unless there is unusually heavy QRN.

WM. B. DUCK SALE - Serge Krauss over in Elkhart, Ind. remembers visiting the Duck store when they were selling out. He bought a few items from the owner and only regrets he didn't buy the entire stock...what a collection he would have today !!

UNDER OUR NOSE - Ralph Barnett, W9IUS, visited the club's museum this past summer and as he left he stopped at a nearby antique shop. Where there he picked up an E.I. spark coil - right under our nose so to speak! We might add that by the time the Barnetts returned to Illinois, they had a car full of antiques which they had found here in the East!

GRAVITATION EXPERIMENTS - Tom Appleby (W3AX) and other members of the Loomis Scientific Foundation are presently reading material on gravitation and are actually conducting some experiments along this line. True pioneers - they can always find something to investigate!

## ANNUAL A.W.A. BUSINESS MEETING

QTH: K2JA, Pittsford, New York

A roll call indicated the following Officers and Board Members present: Batterson, Cundall, Triggs, Dengler, Smith, Gardner, O'Neil, Rutherford, Ruske, Blodgett and Kelley. Missing - Brelsford and Young. Business consisted of a report by the President on the Annual Meet and the incorporation papers being handled by W4ZM. The Secretary reviewed the Museum situation and Treasurer Cundall gave a report on the club's finances for the year. W2GB reported on several new pieces of gear including the pioneer television transmitter and receiver used by Dr. E.F.W. Alexanderson. This was followed by a brief discussion on the location for the 1966 Meet - no decision was made, however, it was felt that it should be held either in the 3rd district or again at Holcomb.

Following the business meeting, an unusual sound movie was shown titled "THE ROARING TWENTIES" Consisting of pictures from early news reels - it provided one of the most entertaining programs seen in a long time. In addition to the Officers present, there were several members and wives...

**"CORTLANDT STREET STORY"** - old timers well remember visiting "Radio Row" during the "Golden Age" of radio. As most of you know - it has just about disappeared - and soon will be all gone. An interesting account of this business section in New York City can be found in the October, 1965 issue of "CQ" magazine.

**DO YOU KNOW** - that over a million and a half station licenses have been issued to operate over five million transmitters and the F.C.C. is processing more than a half million applications a year !!

The obvious 'catch' to these fantastic figures is that the bulk of the stations are CB'ers and low power commercial 2 way radio installations - but even so - it is something to think about ! (See page 12, Nov. issue of "Communication News"). Here are some of the high ones:

1. Citizen Band - 2,197,302 trans.
2. Business 471,565
3. Special Industrial 341,910
4. Amateur 256,086
5. Police transmitters 214,205
6. Ships and Marine 191,268
7. Power Companies 171,348
8. Taxicabs 168,506
9. Railroads 144,248
10. Fire installations 113,002



Last photo of W8DG in W8JDV Museum

### SILENT KEYS

**DAN MC COY**, W8DG, ex-2HA, Aug. 30, pioneer amateur (1906), employed by Massie Wireless (1911), United Wireless (1911-12), Tropical Wireless (1913-15). Charter Member of A.W.A.

Fred Parsons (W2EXM) tells us that Dan was in the process of fixing his antenna with another ham when he suffered a fatal heart attack. One might say 'He died with his boots on'. The 'last' foto of Dan was sent to us by K8UZ.

**CY JENKS**, W8JYJ, ex-8RF, 8AAF, another early member of A.W.A. and old time amateur. "Cy" was very active in traffic nets and well known in the Detroit area.

**ALLEN B. DUMONT**, Age 64, Nov. 14 in New York City. Frequently called the "Father of Television", he started his career experimenting with TV while working with the old de Forest Company. Not satisfied with mechanical scanning, he turned to electrical scanning using the cathode ray tube and formed his own company. While in the process he developed the "Magic Eye" tube which he sold profitably to RCA. By 1937 he had his first all electronic TV receiver for the market. (Tks- W2Q0)

**WILLIAM CREWS** (Kankakee, Ill.)

Nov. 6 "Bill" was an ardent historian and deeply interested in all phases of radio. A cripple and bed-ridden for many years, he found found great enjoyment in reading about the early days of radio.

**MEET CHUCK RODRIGUES**, whose wonderful cartoon (thanks to Popular Electronic's Editor Perry Ferrell) graces the next page. Chuck lives 8 miles down the road from the historic transmitter site of Marion, Mass. near New Bedford and, we discover, suffers as much as any of us the nostalgia connected with medieval receivers and long electromagnetic waves. Chuck is a collector, all right, from the pinafore days - Atwater Kents, the gooseneck speakers, etc., graduating upward to an ARRL regen. Came WWII and while he was in the Navy his mother took the opportunity of getting rid "of all that junk". So Chuck had to start all over again with an old Freed-Eisemann as a nucleus (with an HqL80 etc. for current listening.) Cartooning, he says, keeps his nose so close to the drawing board he has precious little time to collect. And this is good. Gives AWA members the chance to collect Rodrigues cartoons ! The one on the opposite page blown up to over two feet high is framed and hangs in the AWA Museum and another was framed and presented to Jack Gray, W8JDV, at the Annual AWA. Chuck has a bone to pick with things down at Marion. Somebody is cutting the big masts part way down for junk - but to add insult to injury, the little cafe at the foot of the old station is called "The Shortwave Grill". Chuck thinks all old timers should march on Washington to demand FCC force the cafe owner to change it to "The Longwave Grill".. and we do too !

**SABLE ISLAND** - beautiful colored pictures of this mysterious island, on which hundreds of ships have been wrecked, can be found in the September issue of National Geographic magazine. Sable Island, the most notorious island in the world to early sailing ships (and even to present day vessels) was once the location of the lonliest and remotest of all early Marconi wireless stations.

The A.W.A. show "The First Amateur" includes pictures of the old Marconi station and actual tape recorded interviews with two of the early wireless operators. Note to book collectors: try and buy the fiction book titled - "The Nymph and the Lamp"....We found two in a local bookstore at \$1 each. A tale of an early Marconi operator who is stationed on the island - it has an unusual romantic twist that will not allow you to put it down until finished !

**SPEAKING OF MUSEUMS** - there was a nice writeup in the Nov. 19 issue of LIFE magazine on the Smithsonian - unfortunately nothing on electricity or radio.

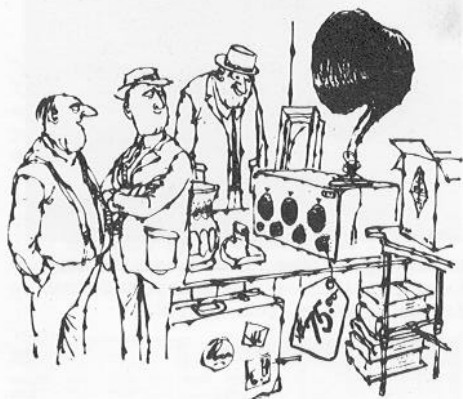


Chuck Rodrigues with his latest collectors item -- a 1965 boob-tube which he thinks will eventually become an antique if it doesn't get thrown out at some future housecleaning time !

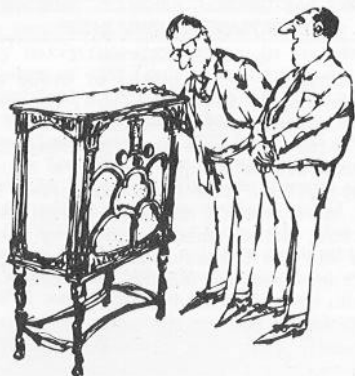
**DE FOREST EARLY AUDIONS** - the title of an article in the September issue of "Electronics World", is good material for the layman; however, it doesn't offer too much to the informed historian. We note the author tends to neglect a fellow by the name of Edison and an Englishman named Fleming - both of whom we think had something to do with the pre-development of the three element tube of de Forest.

While on the subject, there is in the club's library a tape recording of de Forest personally describing the development of the Audion and he specifically refers to Fleming's work ! Then of course, we have the other side - have you read some of the early British books including some of Flemings, and noted that they barely refer to de Forest's valuable contribution to the modern vacuum tube ? In fact, we have a couple British books (radio) written in the late teens and they never even mention de Forest - so I guess it works both ways !

**INFORMATION WANTED** - Ralph Batcher gave us 2 lapel pins which we would like to identify. They are about the size of a dime and shows a hand grasping bolts of lightning or sparks. The letters on the pin are: "W. & E. A." Anyone ever hear of this organization ? Write W2ICE.



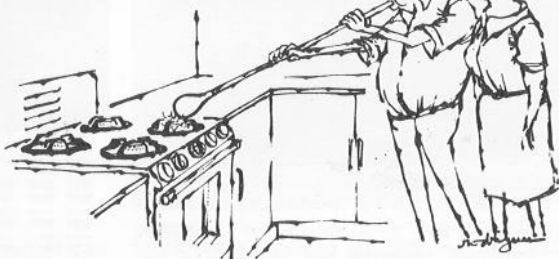
"Watch that character try to offer me \$2 for that old radio."



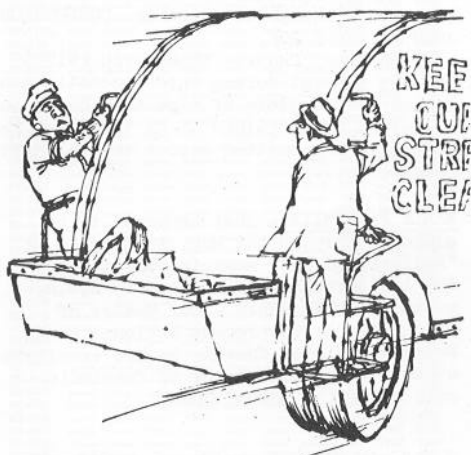
"Outside of a nuvistor r.f. stage, a transistorized audio section, a silicon rectifier, a ferrite antenna, and a diode detector, it's a real classic."

# YE ANTIQUE RADIO COLLECTOR

By RODRIGUES



"... Oh, stop it, Joe—you'll never be able to make a 201-A."



"Of course, there are some days when none of those radios turn up, Mr. Claypool."



"Really, aren't you carrying this antique radio hobby too far?"



## THE DAY GENERAL PERSHING LAUNCHED TRANSATLANTIC FACSIMILE

by Emily Ellsworth

Shielded by a cluster of trees at Otter-cliffs in Acadia Park, on the southeastern end of Mount Desert Island in Maine, there is an unimposing boulder with a bronze plaque bearing a brief inscription. This simple memorial is all that remains of Naval Radio, Bar Harbor, Maine, which some forty years ago was the busiest wireless station in the world and during it's brief operation created radio history.

Probably one of the most historic episodes that took place at this station was the first radio-photography or facsimile experiments transmitted across the Atlantic ocean. In October, 1921, the Otter Cliffs Naval Radio station participated in the first facsimile transmissions across the Atlantic between North America and Europe. The composite facsimile system used was developed by a French Scientist named Eiquard Belin of Paris. The U.S. Navy Department had invited Dr. Belin to use the Otter Cliff station as his laboratory because of it's excellent radio location.

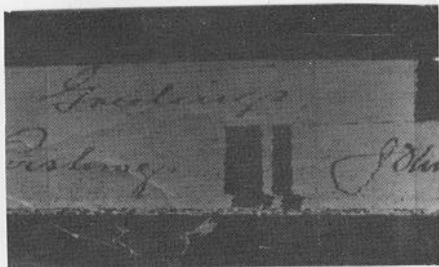
Dr. Belin arrived at Otter Cliffs with his equipment Sept. 10th, 1921 and set up shop in one of the barracks. He had already arranged for the powerful French radio station "YN" in Lyons, France to serve as the transmitter for the tests.

At this time, General John F. Pershing was visiting in Paris and was invited by the French Government to be the first person to send to the United States a hand written message of greeting via Dr. Belin's invention.

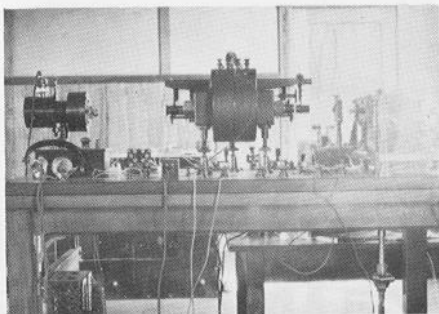
At Otter Cliffs, Radioman First Class Paul Nelson, USN, had been assigned by Senior Chief Radioman Luke Dufresne, to assist Dr. Belin with the language barrier and the installation of the equipment.

Dr. Belin arranged to conduct his first facsimile test on Oct. 5, 1921 on 23,000 meters. The first test was to photograph a hand written message by Gen. Pershing who was at the Eiffel Tower in Paris. At exactly 1200 on the date set, a group of Naval personnel gathered in the barracks where Dr. Belin had his equipment installed to witness this history making experiment.

A few minutes after 1200, tape started coming from the camera of Dr. Belin's projector, accompanied by heavy crashes of static. After making some adjustments, the word "GREETINGS" appeared in Pershing's handwriting. Another crash



Photograph of the first facsimile message transmitted across the Atlantic - from France to Maine, Oct. 5, 1921



Facsimile Radio Camera-Projector developed by Dr. Belin

of static preceded the word "PERSHING" followed by the word "JOHN".

Dr. Belin tore this strip of tape from the projector and threw it on the floor. The message was coming through backwards. After more adjustments, the message started coming through in sequence. "GREETINGS JOHN F. PERSHING".

My husband, Charley Ellesworth (WITU), who was present during this demonstration, picked up the piece of tape that had been discarded and retained it as the first facsimile transmitted across the Atlantic Ocean.....

EARLY FACSIMILE - just happened to be glancing through the May, 1925 issue of "Radio Broadcast" magazine and noticed the lead article was written by A.W.A. member Charles Henry - our Master of Ceremonies at the recent National Meet. We congratulated Charlie on his excellent article on various forms of facsimile even we are 40 years late !

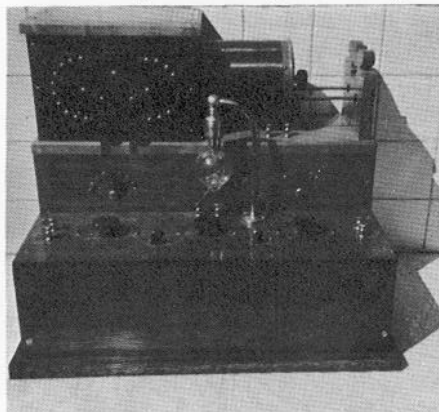
A.W.A. ON NETWORK - Director W2IK was on the "Breakfast Club" (originating in Chicago) Aug. 13. During the broadcast "Ducky" gave the A.W.A. a real boost !

## (Radiotrons)

The following information was compiled by George Clark and given to us by Gerald Tyne. It lists the dates of RCA Catalogs and the tubes listed in each catalog by year. This will enable the tube collector to know when each tube was first sold and when it was discontinued. We might add that only regular commercial type tubes are listed. It does not show special military types which might include the UV-210 or special "sample" types such as the UX-225, etc.

TUBE	YEARS LISTED											
UV-200	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-201	1921	1922	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-202	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-203	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-204	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-216	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-217	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---
WB-214	---	1922	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
WB-210	---	1922	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
WB-800	---	1922	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
WD-11	---	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
WD-12	---	---	1923	1924	1925	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-199	---	---	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UV-201A	---	---	1923	1924	1925	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-203A	---	---	---	1924	1925	1926	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UV-204A	---	---	---	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UL-199	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UL-200	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---
UL-201A	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
WL-12	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UL-120	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UL-112	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---
UL-210	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UL-213	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	---	---	---	---	---
UL-216B	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	---	---	---	---	---
UL-874	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UV-876	---	---	---	---	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---
UV-877	---	---	---	---	1925	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UL-200A	---	---	---	---	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-171	---	---	---	---	1926	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
UV-886	---	---	---	---	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-112A	---	---	---	---	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-171A	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-222	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-226	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-227	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-240	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-280	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-281	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-852	---	---	---	---	---	1927	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-250	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-211	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-217A	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-206	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-214	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-217C	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-218	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-219	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-841	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-842	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-845	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	---	---	---	---	---
UV-848	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-849	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-851	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-853	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	---	---	---	---	---
UV-854	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-855	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-859	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	---	---	---	---	---
UL-860	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-861	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-1651	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-866	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-862	---	---	---	---	---	---	1928	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-224	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-245	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-865	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-866	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-207	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-845	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-837	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-864	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-867	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UL-868	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-869	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-872	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1929	1930	---	---	---
UV-858	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1930	---	---	---	---
UL-863	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1930	---	---	---	---
RCA-230	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1930	---	---	---	---
RCA-231	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1930	---	---	---	---
RCA-232	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1930	---	---	---	---
RCA-221	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1930	---	---	---	---

This beautiful replica was recently made by Harry Cap from plans in the May, 1939 issue of QST (and this is not a typographical error!) The article was submitted by a F.C. Beekley, 3JS in 1915 for the first issue of QST (!) and was titled "A Long Distance Receiving Set That Really Tunes". For some reason QST held off publishing the article until 1939 !! With few exceptions, all the components in Harry's set are authentic of 1915 era. The spherical Audion is a beautiful replica made by M.F. Ross, W6IS.



**MUSEUMS** - by now most of you have seen the article in the November issue of "Electronics Illustrated" covering some of the A.W.A. member's museums. Well written by Howard Pyle, W7OE, it should be of great interest to non-members and the average reader. "YB" calls to our attention that the Editor used his perogative and shortened his story considerably. You can't always win Howard.....

**EARLY LICENSE** - our old friend Zip Jones relates how he got his ticket (5 1/4 years ago) and one of his first jobs (just out of Grammar school) was an assignment on the old "SS MORGAN" - a big SIDEWHEELER with walking beam engines and everything - working out of New Orleans - ...can you imagine a youngster doing something like that today? The 'ole timer has something to really treasure for he has something that cannot be bought today.....

**WEST COAST HISTORY** - Thom Mayes, W6AX, is having a ball out on the coast tape recording interviews of pioneers such as Dick Johnstone, Frank Geisel and other pioneers. He hit the jackpot recently when he located a fellow who installed the first spark transmitter at Mare Island back in 1904 - a 4 1/2 kw. set using the call "TQ".....

## BOOKS

**"HISTORY OF COMMUNICATIONS-ELECTRONICS IN THE U.S. NAVY"** - a 657 page hard bound volume well illustrated with many schematics...only \$4.75 from the Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C., 20402, No. 22H (D211.2:EL 2/7)

Several members called this book to our attention back in the spring; however, we've delayed reporting it. For our money, it is the 'buy' of the year for the radio historian. A tremendous amount of material - this huge volume should be of value whether you're interested in history or equipment - and don't let the name fool you - it covers all phases of radio - not just Navy. There were a couple omissions which is permissible for a publication of this size. We understand that Charlie Ellsworth, WLTU, may add material to a later edition covering pertinent info on Navy NBD.....

**MICHAEL FARADAY** - by L. Pearce Williams, 531 pages (\$12.50) An exceptionally well written book covering the life history of this early pioneer. It is recommended for the advanced historian interested in all phases of electricity.

**"ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 1964"** (30th Anniversary) of the F.C.C. This paper-covered book of 169 pages sells for 50¢ and summarizes 30 years of electronic communication development as well as current happenings in the field. Can be obtained from the Supt. of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. (Tks - W7OE)

**TOM SWIFT (and JACK BINNS)** - readers of our Summer 1964 issue may remember the review of an article on Edward Stratemeyer (1862-1930) who wrote so many boy's books - - "The Rover Boys", "The Radio Boys" and, under the pseudonym of "Victor Appleton", the "Tom Swift" series. AWA has just acquired a copy of "Tom Swift and His Wireless Message" (1911). A quick reading of this cliffhanger tells how Tom saves the victims of two shipwrecks (one a yacht, one an airship) by concocting a wireless transmitter and receiver out of bits and pieces from the wreckage.

Whereas the author's technology on aeronautical matters is just plain funny, his explanation of how his "wireless" was put together and how it works is quite accurate, even though sketchy. Here, we suspect that the authenticity comes from Stratemeyer's working arrangement with pioneer Jack Binns, who also was consultant on Stratemeyer's "Radio Boys" series.

The airship (electric !) was powered

by a gas engine and dynamo which were unhinged in the crash. The rest was easy. The antenna was a standard four-wire job with spreaders and slung from the top of a tall tree to ground. Incidentally, Tom used "CQD", being unsure, at that time, whether enough ship operators were acquainted with the new-fangled SOS call. His operating procedure for marine distress calling was flawless. Only Jack Binns - - with a lot of experience behind him - - could have written that chapter !

**GOLD AWARD SOS** - is the title of a historical article written by A.W.A. member Frank Whitmore, W2AAA. Frank tells the story about the submarine "NAUTILUS" and its last voyage (1931) with Ray Meyers, W6MLZ (ex-W3AJZ), as the radio operator.

In arctic waters and the main transmitter out of operation, Ray keyed the regenerative detector of a Navy 1420 receiver tuned to 600 meters (acting as a transmitter !) and raised the ship "SS Independence Hall" who came to their assistance.

The entire story, including a picture of a 1420 loaned by W2ZI, appears in the September issue of "73" magazine. If you haven't read it - send \$1 to Wayne Green, Peterboro, New Hampshire, for a copy.

### **"CC" and WLZE LIVE ON - -**

Reports coming in indicate the National Park at the Cape Cod site of the once famous South Wellfleet Marconi station "CC" (MCC/WCC) had record attendance this past summer. Tens of thousands admired W2EXM's replica of the old station and listened to Irving Vermilya (ex-WLZE) send the preamble "to all Marconi operators at sea"....

Yes, that is right - when "VN" made the tape for the A.W.A. back in 1956, little did he realize that we would send a copy of it to the Dept. of Interior who in turn would use it at the Park Building so thousands could listen to it for years to come....

Those of you who have heard it can't help but admire Irving's beautiful "fist" with its perfect spacing like a tape machine. What nicer tribute could be paid to this old timer - the former manager of South Wellfleet, then to continue to have his "signals" ring out across the sand dunes on the Cape exactly the way he sent them 50 years ago !

**BROADCAST SET LISTING** - noted in the last OTB containing names of thousands of receivers can also be found in certain early issues of "Rider's Manual". Jim Kenney called this to our attention and with a little checking we found he was right.



# Antique Wireless Assn.

## 10th year of activity

Many have read or heard about the Antique Wireless Association but too few know of its background or activities. Here we present pictures of the A.W.A. Museum and some facts about their work.

A.W.A. was formed in 1953 by W2GB, W2QY and W2ICE as a historical programming organization, making and presenting historical wireless shows. The club's museum, containing over 25,000 historical items, is considered one of the finest in the country. Housed in a built-over carriage barn in Holcomb, N.Y., plans are to locate the collection ultimately in a public museum. Those interested in viewing the equipment should phone Bruce Kelley, W2ICE, 315-657-7489 for appointment. A weekday evening is preferred. Plan to spend an hour or two. There is no charge.

A.W.A. publishes the Old Timer's Bulletin, a quarterly, the only amateur historical paper in the country. News items, historical book reviews, old time "ads" all make it entertaining and timely reading for the old timer, historian and collector. Membership is open to anyone. Annual dues are \$2.50, include the OTB, and are payable to W2QY.



Roland Bourne, W1ANA, Curator of the A.R.R.L. Museum, addressing an open air A.W.A. meeting. The A.W.A. schedules several regional dinner "meets" each year in addition to a national gathering with members attending from all over the country.



Typical corner of the Museum with showcase of early wireless keys and Morse instruments. Cabinet in background houses historical microphones. Most of the equipment belongs to members and is displayed on a semi-loan basis.

# THE ONTARIO ARRL CONVENTION KING EDWARD HOTEL, TORONTO

NEW YORK SECTION, AMERICAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY  
Spring Meeting, Copley University  
Hawthorne, N.Y., April 22-23, 1950

## NATIONAL CONVENTION CALIFORNIA

**A.R.R.L. HUDSON DIVISION CONVENTION**  
2:00 P.M. The World Above 50 Mc. Antique Wireless Association!

The Institute of Radio Engineers  
AWA Group Honored in  
Demonstrating Antique Gear  
For U.S. Radio Pioneers

**1964 ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION**  
New York Hilton, N.Y.C.

**HENRY FORD MUSEUM  
SPECIAL PROGRAM**  
An 1889 VHF Transmitter by the Antiques Wireless Association.  
120 YEARS OF BRASS POUNDING  
An outstanding film, with stereophonic sound, will be presented

**ANNUAL PENN-YORK HAMFEST**  
4:30 p.m.—"120 Years of Brasspounding" and Demonstration

**NEW ENGLAND DIVISION CONVENTION PROGRAM**  
1:00 p.m.—How It All Started, Part I. The Earliest Days

Demonstration of Marconi Transmitter and Receiver of 1896. Shipboard  
Wireless Station circa 1906, and several rare receivers of the period 1908  
to 1912. Don't miss this showing of great built and used before most of us  
were born!

## Tenth Annual Convention of American Radio Relay League

The Antique Wireless Association of Rochester, New York, and first prize exhibit winner at the convention, displayed some of the apparatus used by "ham" (recreational and commercial) wireless stations in the very early days of radio.

**AWA To Demonstrate Old  
Gear For Radio Astronomers  
At Physicist Convocation**

## DAKOTA DIVISION CONVENTION

**A.W.A. Scores Big Hit  
At Division Convention;  
Honored by Governor**

Consistent visitors at the AWA exhibit included not only many all-time greats of amateur radio but Governor Nelson Rockefeller himself, who had a great time playing with the gear and listening to the several meters and transmitter which

**1959 DAYTON HAMVENTION**  
1010-1100—"Pioneers of Wireless"

"The World Above 50 Megacycles." This is another of the excellent motion pictures produced by the Antique Wireless Association.



**Institute of  
Radio Engineers**  
Foster J. Sturges, Jr.,  
President

**30th RADIO FALL MEETING**  
Sheraton Hotel,  
Rochester, N.Y.  
October 26, 27, 28, 29

**OLDS TIMERS' NIGHT**  
Sunday, October 26, 1958  
4 to 8:30 p.m.  
Hotel Sheraton

Sponsored by the Rochester Amateur Radio Assoc., Antique Wireless Assoc., Rochester Fall Meeting Committee, and Rochester Section, I.R.E.  
David S. Hall, President of Electronics Industries Assoc., will M.C. the program.

**1st ANNUAL  
ARRL  
NEW YORK STATE  
AMATEUR RADIO  
CONVENTION**

9:00 P.M.—"The World Above 50 Megacycles" of The Antique Wireless Association Museum.  
10:55 A.M.—"History of the Telegraph Key" Louise Marcan, W3WRE Antique Wireless Association, Main Ballroom.

Delaware Valley Radio Association  
**OLD TIMERS' NIGHT**

**THE PALMER HOUSE • CHICAGO**  
2:30 P.M.—3:30 P.M.—GRAND BALLROOM—Pioneers of Wireless  
Film and tape by Antique Wireless Ass'n. of Rochester, N.Y.  
4:00 P.M.—12:00 M.—Grand Ballroom. Home Goto-Goto  
The Story of O.K. slides and tape by Antique Wire-  
less Association

In the past 10 years, A.W.A. members have appeared on the programs of 120 amateur and professional radio conventions and gatherings. A.R.R.L. has distributed A.W.A. slide shows to about 250 amateur radio clubs and other ham gatherings all over the U.S.



A partial view of the Museum's 1925 "store". Showcases and shelves display products one would find in a radio store 40 years ago. Many of the items are new and in original cartons.





A section of the commercial wireless area showing two of the several commercial spark transmitters of WW1 period. The large condenser at top of the picture was originally used at the old Marconi station at Marion. The visitor can see equipment from most all of the early pioneer trans-Atlantic stations such as Tuckerton, New Brunswick, Sayville, South Wellfleet and Arlington.

At right: The upper floor of the Museum is a vast display and storage area. To the left is a collection of several thousand tubes including one of the earliest Fleming valves and a 100 KW. tube from pioneer WLW. In the far background one can see a 1 KW. Clapp-Eastham "Hy-tone" spark transmitter--one of several amateur spark transmitters which are used for demonstration purposes.



## WITH THE COLLECTORS

FRANK SMITH, W5VA - sent us a photo of a rare tube made in Australia about 1920. It was sent to Frank by VK3AVE and is called an "Expanse B" valve. At first glance it resembles a Myers audion with two plastic end mounts; however, a closer look shows it is of larger diameter with the familiar round aluminum plate such as in our early Audio-trons and Electron Relays...

CHARLES HENRY - picked up a Federal "61" from W9AKH which is in mint condition. In addition, Charlie has added 53 copies of "Popular Electricity" dating around 1910 which will give him plenty of reading material this winter.

JOE PAVEK, W0EP, has appropriately named his collection the "Museum of Wonderful Wireless". Sporting a new letterhead on his stationery - the combination looks real nice. New gear includes a Robbins-Meyers 500 volt M.G. set, several Grebes, several nice keys and other material.

FRANK ATLEE, K2PI - As a result of locating several old timers selling out, Frank has switched from a small casual collector to the big league. Although mostly broadcast, he does have some choice amateur and commercial gear and finds himself on call at local events for displays. Even the tube collection has increased with double wing audions and other early valves.

OREN GAMBILL, W5WI, hit the "jackpot" back in the summer when he picked up a nice Murdock rotary gap (circa 1913), several Murdock condensers plus several receivers. Oren frequently exhibits his gear at radio clubs and hamfests.

BILL TRAVER - writes that he has his 'hobby room' just about completed. A room 13x43 feet, it will house the better items in his collection - and he has some nice stuff!

FRANK DONAHUE (Woodland Hills, Calif.) recently picked up some real choice receivers including a rare version of the Kennedy 110, a Federal 58, a Paragon RA-10, a Marconi version of the IP-500 - and to top it off - an unusual Mignon receiver with plate glass top and sides!! Nice going Frank!

KEN CONRAD, W2IIE, is holding his own in the Buffalo area by adding a mint Federal Jr. crystal set, Federal 59, Grebe CR-5 and 18 (the latter being a hard one to find). In addition, Ken added several G-R instruments and a fair collection of tubes.

ERV RASMUSSEN, W6YPM, now has a complete set of "Modern Electrics" - in fact, he has many spares.

CLIFF PENNISTON, W9BQQ, sent us 5 very neatly typed pages listing the equipment in his collection. We were very impressed since the list included all kinds of gear ranging from Kennedy's thru to a complete 1919 amateur station. In addition, there were many fine BC sets such as a Remler super using 199's, amateur spark gear plus a large library of books and magazines!

ED RASER, W2ZL, - one may disagree but we think Ed made the 'find' of the year when he located a rare IP-76. To the best of our knowledge it is the only one in a private collection. More on this receiver in a future OTB. Ed also itemized many other rare pieces and commented that he now has 4 spark sets in operation including a complete United Wireless ship installation!

BILL LAVERTY - has been trying to unload some of his collection because of lack of space; however, he can't resist a good buy. Result: he is now the owner of two more private collections! ED CUMMINGS - hard to believe - but Ed just picked up a 1" MBSCO spark coil in the original box as it was shipped from Manhattan Electric back in 1910!

## TWO NEW COLLECTORS OF UNUSUAL INTEREST

who recently joined the A.W.A. are Henry Wendon (K8KIO) and Fin Stewart. Henry is a former W1 and 7 and is beginning to build up a nice little collection of early gear including receivers, tubes and books. Of unusual interest is the fact that he is a Professor of Mineralogy at Ohio State University and is somewhat of an authority on early detectors!

Our other new member is a friend of Floyd Lyons. Fin started by collecting early light bulbs (he has 1100 bulbs!) however, the interest has expanded to tubes and radio gear. His address is: Fin Stewart, 168 Allambie Rd., Allambie Heights, New South Wales, Australia.

## IMPORTANT ! IMPORTANT !

The local post office has 'bugged' us for not giving out our Zip Code number. We plead guilty. So to keep them happy and to get your mail here sooner - please use the Zip # on all future correspondence...

Treasurer: Lincoln Cundall  
69 Boulevard Pkwy.  
Rochester, N.Y.  
ZIP CODE # 14612

Secretary: Bruce Kelley  
Main Street  
Holcomb, N.Y.  
ZIP CODE # 14469



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 3RD ANNUAL A.W.A. MEET - MASON, OHIO

The 'meet' proved to be one of the most successful yet with a surprisingly large turnout from New England to California. It provided an opportunity for many members from the East to meet for the first time fellow historians and collectors from the mid-west such as Joe Pavlek from Minnesota and Ed Freeman - South Dakota.

We had the usual congenial dinner and get-together Friday evening followed by a tour through Jack's Museum (W8JDV) which proved to be a fascinating place for the collector. A neat two room building with entrance - one could spend several evenings examining the thousands of items that W8JDV has collected over the years.

Saturday morning found the "gang" visiting nearby pioneer station WLW under the guidance of AWA member Charlie Stinger. Of great interest was the 500 KW. final used many years ago on an experimental basis. Approaching 80 feet of panels, it was loaded up at times to 750 K.W. output - AM !

Following an excellent lunch, provided by the ladies of the Methodist Church, the meet got under way with Secretary Kelley as M.C.....although suffering with a severe cold - he managed to introduce an excellent program of speakers who presented the following "papers":

RESTORING EARLY EQUIPMENT - Link Cundall (W2QY). Different methods and techniques were demonstrated and discussed.

COLLECTING OLD GEAR - Joe Pavlek (W0OPF) Humorous anecdotes concerning trials and tribulations of a radio collector !

AN EARLY TRANS-ATLANTIC STATION - Andy Shafer (W8TE). Interesting report on the operation of the huge New Brunswick station 45 years ago.

MINERALS USED IN EARLY DETECTORS - Henry Wendon (K8KIO), Prof. of Mineralogy at Ohio State University. He displayed various types of minerals used in early detectors and told how to identify them and their electrical characteristics.

A.R.R.L. TRANS-CONS, Thom Mayes, (W6AX) Using an AC alternator delivering different frequencies (60 to 500), a magnetic tape was made of spark signals from 2RK, 9ZN, 5ZA and 6EA as they handled the famous trans-con message...

EARLY TELETYPE - Ralph Batcher (from Douglaston, Long Island) displayed an original 1912 teletype machine and explained its unique mechanism.

EARLY A.R.R.L. CONVENTION - Elmer Schubert, (W8ALW), reported on the highlights of the 1927 ARRL Convention held in Cincinnati which had many celebrities present including Don Mix of WNP fame, etc.

PIONEER WLW - Jim Rockwell (W8BLZ), V.P. Crosley Corp., gave an interesting report on the old Crosley station including the 500 K.W. BC transmitter.

RARE TUBE IDENTIFICATION - Gerald Tyne from Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, presented an informative illustrated talk on how to recognize the LRS relay, Round valves and unusual "bootleg" audions.

The Master of Ceremonies at the evening banquet was our old friend from Chicago - Charlie Henry. Highlights of the dinner included Jack Gray's presentation of Dan McCoy's "Silent Key" to A.W.A. President George Batterson. A piece of cardboard was placed between the tightened contacts and the key will be placed in a special showcase at the club's museum. This showcase holds and honors "Silent Keys" of former A.W.A. members.

Charlie Stinger was given a special award for his valuable assistance to Jack - an unusual award - a device to hold the tip on the end of a billiard stick while it was being cemented ! !

W2ICE then showed slides of former A.W.A. meets as well as some of its activities. This was followed by Charlie Henry auctioning off several of W6AX's tapes of the "Trans-con" spark signals which were on the afternoon's program.

The affair was concluded by presenting W8JDV an original copy of the cartoon "Ye Antique Radio Collector" which was autographed by all present. Everyone appeared to have had a good time - the only complaint was - "there just wasn't enough time to talk and look at things." ....guess we'll have to plan a two day affair in 1966.

## A.W.A. CW NET

3525 KC. - 8 P.M.

First Wednesday each month

W2QY Net Control K2NP Alternate  
(Link) (Bill)

KLBD - Ted	W3OY - Art
W2ARX- Harry	W3UXW - Ray
W2EY - Ralph	K4KFR - Joe
K2PI - Frank	K3IKO - Henry
W2RUJ - Bob	W8PO - Elden
WA2SVA- Jack	W9GFS - Phil

## A.W.A. PHONE NET

3900 KC. - Every Sunday  
12 noon - W2AN Net Control

3900 KC. - 1st and 3rd  
Tuesday - each month- SSB  
W2ICE - Net Control

- GRAY'S WIRELESS MUSEUM - -

Headquarters for National A.W.A. Meet

Jack, W8JDV, started in the radio game during WWI. After a few years as a commercial operator shipping out of New York and Gulf ports, he settled down, obtained a little more formal education and ended up with the Crosley Corporation. He retired this past summer as Supervisor Engineer at their huge "Voice of America" station and is now devoting most of his time to historical radio. His amateur museum is one of the finest in the country. Jack concentrates on all phases of early radio - one can see everything from early amateur and commercial equipment through to broadcast receivers and tubes.



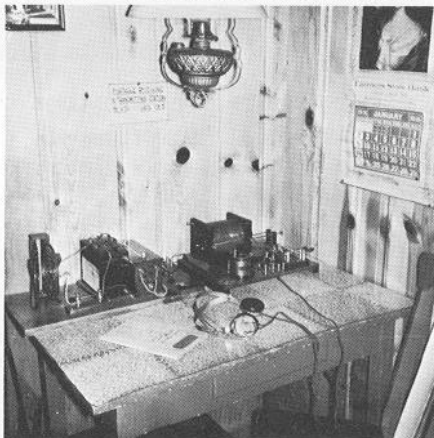
Outside view of the museum - a modest 1 story building of several rooms.



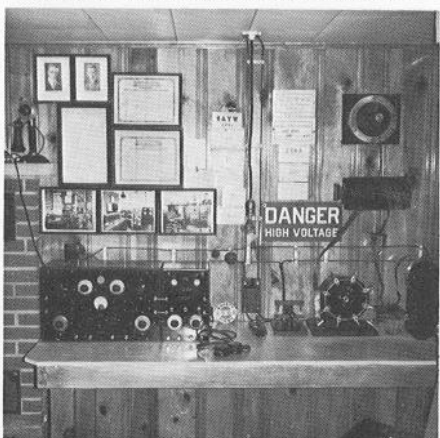
Typical interior view of the museum.



Part of the large Crosley display.



A pre-WWI station setup at W8JDV.



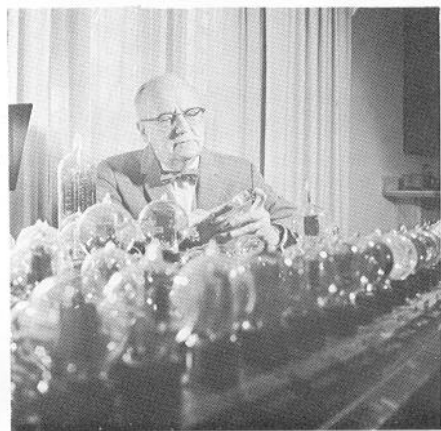
Amateur station of the early 20's.

# TYNE'S TUBES

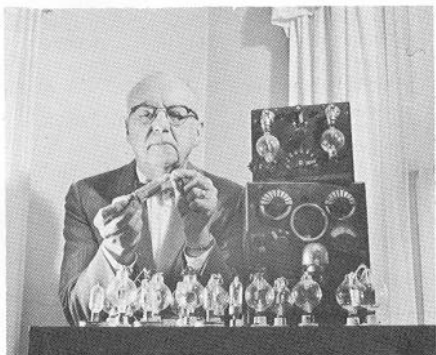
The name Gerald Tyne has appeared several times in the OTE. His articles titled "Saga of the Vacuum Tube" will always remain a 'master reference' to the tube historian. Now, for the first time we have some pictures to show of this well known historian.

We were fortunate that his former company (Bell Labs) published an illustrated article in their paper "The Reporter" covering Tyne's tube collection. With the company's permission, we reprint some of the pictures.

Jerry was originally on the staff of one of the better technical schools in the country - Rensselaer Polytech Institute; however, it appeared research work at Bell Laboratories was more to his liking. With over 30 years of service, he recently retired and plans to continue his work as a tube historian.



—A Fleming valve, reportedly owned by the late Sir Ambrose Fleming, English electrical engineer, who made the first vacuum tube device. This is a tube with a plate and a filament inside it.



—A DeForest-type detector, reportedly used as the principal evidence in a patent infringement suit by the American Marconi Company against Lee DeForest. Although DeForest lost the suit, which charged that his triode infringed on Marconi's patent covering the diode, history later vindicated him.



If by now you're thinking of scouring through country attics and radio row looking for ancient vacuum tubes, Gerald Tyne has some advice for you:

"I doubt that you can get very much of the real old stuff anymore—it's pretty much out of the picture. But there's still the possibility of going to some of these war surplus places especially some of the older ones—you may still be able to pick up some of the relics of the 30's."



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- FROM THE EDITORS -

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Yes, we're late again with this issue but we wanted to cover the Annual Business Meeting held in November. Speaking of the OTB, many readers would like our pictures to be bigger. So would we. The trouble is that larger pictures gobble up space at a colossal ratio. Take a picture one column wide. So you want it larger? You gotta make it two columns wide. Is this twice as large? No - it takes four times the space! - and space costs us money -- real money. And we pay for the printing of pictures by the square inch. You want bigger pictures, you gotta multiply everything by four! When we feel a picture needs to be bigger than one column wide, we make it two providing it is sharp. Maybe someday our membership will be large enough to afford a Bulletin of larger size paper. Then we'd be in clover. Meantime, on our austerity budget, we think we do pretty well--with about half the real cost of the Bulletin coming to us free, thanks to several kinds of skullduggery practiced by our Staff. Take any copy of the Bulletin down to your local printer and have him quote you on the cost of running off about 400 of them, including typography and engraving. Wow! We're proud of the job--and real happy we can get it to members free with their dues..Aren't you?

**TAPE RECORD NOW** - many old time wireless pioneers are still with us. "Tate", W8FX, strongly suggests that the history, anecdotes and information these early radio men have should be recorded on tape as soon as possible before it is too late. If you're doing any of this type of work - let us know and we'll help build up a large cross-reference file of tape recordings.

**COL. EDWIN HOWLAND ROBINSON GREEN -**

In the last OTB under the column "New Gear at A.W.A." we mentioned acquiring a Kennedy 110, some early cable relays, etc. - the source of this material, however, was incorrect. We have since found out it was from the original estate of the deceased Col. E.H.R. Green, son of the eccentric millionairess Hetty Green.

We feel this equipment has great historic value for the following reasons. The Colonel, like his mother, was an eccentric millionaire - and also a radio enthusiast! In the early 20's he setup a radio laboratory near his home at "Round Hills", South Dartmouth, Mass. In the summer of 1922 he obtained the call WMAF to broadcast. He soon found it difficult to obtain broadcast material - and this is where a millionaire's whim established a precedent and made history.

He heard about a temporary broadcast from WFAF to WGY, KDKA and KYW using AT & T lines. The Colonel reasoned that if they could do this on a temporary basis - why not run a line from WFAF to his private station on a permanent basis thus eliminating the headache of rounding up local talent and playing phonograph records! So in one stroke - he obtained first class live entertainment direct from New York and established the **FIRST** network station!! (July 1st, 1923)

Needless to say, this presented many problems such as use of telephone lines, etc., and particularly who was to pay for all the expense since there were very few sponsors at that time. Colonel Green was philosophical about the whole business - he paid for everything out of his own pocket - free commercials, etc. !!..... (See pages 313-315 of Archer's "History of Radio" for more information.)

**NOTICE:** If you held a radio operator's rating and stood radio-watch at Naval Radio Station Otter Cliffs, Maine, any time between Aug. 28th, 1917 and July 26th, 1919 please forward your address and rating for possible award from the United States Navy. This also applies to any Warrant or Commission Officer who served at the Otter Cliffs station during this period.

Charles Ellsworth, W1TU  
Historian, Naval Communications  
Hancock, Maine

**DIMPSEY-CARPENTIER FIGHT** - an exact description and story about the equipment used at this famous radio broadcast was recently received from Ralph Yeandle. The author, a friend of Ralph's, was a G.E. engineer at the time and the information is in full detail -valuable info.....



RASMUSSEN EXHIBIT AT NATIONAL CONVENTION  
(foto by W6ELW)

The summer issue just missed the report on the A.R.R.L. National 1965 Convention. Two A.W.A. members participated in the event. Pictured above is one of the several showcases of antique gear displayed by W6YPM. His exhibit included a 1912 Clapp-Eastham  $\frac{1}{4}$  kw. spk set and composite receiver, a 1921 de Forest OT-3 telephone xmtr and matching receiver (interpanel set) and lastly, a TWT self-excited oscillator and SW-3 representing the early 30's. A nice display, it received considerable attention.

The official photographer was Temp Campbell, W6ELW, who also acted as the "Old Man" in the Wouff-Hong initiation. Having done some traveling in his time, "Temp" was well qualified and believes in enlightening the newcomer. Speaking of 'traveling', we understand that Ivan Loucks, W3GD retired F.C.C. Head and author Dick Johnstone have also been 'enlightened'...while doing some traveling.

#### MORE ON THE MASSIE OIL-BREAK KEY

Ed Raser's excellent account of his recent California safari was most interesting. I was particularly intrigued by his mention of the Massie oil-break key which he saw in Erv Rasmussen's collection; it reminds me of a little anecdote which may interest AWA members.

Right after WWI and during a 3 months break between hitches, I took a summer job as 'wireless operator' at a remote gold mine camp at Julian, Alaska, 60 miles from Juneau...the nearest settlement. Many years before, United Wireless had installed the station for the mining company. When the Marconi Company took over from United, they did nothing to modernize KJA at Julian other than to replace the type "D" tuner with a Marconi receiver and install a Marconi type "S" antenna switch instead of the marble base United type. The Marconi receiver was the Type 101 which had several knobs more than the 106 series and had two

crystal detectors on the panel. Most Marconi operators referred to this type as the "piano tuner"....it had so many "keys"!!!!

The rest of the gear comprised two large wooden racks each holding twelve 2 quart leyden jars of the copperplated type and bearing the de Forest name-plate. Atop one of these racks was a standard United helix enclosing a spark gap of the straight type with no muffling drum! You can imagine the racket with a 5 KW 'coffin type' transformer of United make with some 20,000 volts! And, to top of the installation, one of the Massie oil-break keys with a lever of perhaps  $\frac{1}{2}$ " cross-section and about 10" long, was provided. As Ed mentioned, the oil tank was mounted below the surface of the operating table and the contacts immersed in what was supposed to be 'transformer oil'. The upper contact was worked by a rod attached to the key at the top and the contact secured to the bottom.

Having no transformer oil at the mine, we resorted to standard lubricating oil which produced a horrible smell after a few minutes of sending with a cloud of oil vapor! Neither the XYL nor I cared to sleep in a cabin with the oil smell always present in the air, let alone in a bed sandwiched in between the leyden jar racks and the operating table. We had no choice however since a sleeping bag in the woods surrounding the shack only attracted the black bears which infested the area! (Those of you who may have old magazine collections - see Mrs. Pyle's piece in the July, 1922 issue of Wireless Age for the complete JULIAN story).....

My solution? Well, as the oil was suppose to cool the key contacts (they really did get hot breaking 5 KW direct) I reasoned that water would be just as good a coolant; it was, except when long transmissions caused the water in the tank to boil and we had a small cloud of steam at times - but we could take that! Now and then the contacts would fuse together but with a little bit of tugging to separate them I could continue sending. Luckily, traffic was light on my two schedules a day with NVD at Juneau and the Navy ops were patient as the fusing of the contacts was only occasional.

Incidentally, KJA worked on 1980 meters, using a two-wire flat-top antenna 80 feet high and 800 feet long. Juneau always gave me "QRK 5".....45 miles airline with 5 KW !!

—Howard Pyle "YB" - W7OE





## Historical Police Transmitter at A.W.A.

The newest equipment at the Antique Wireless Assn. is the historical police transmitter once used at Rochester Police Station WPDR then located on Bronson Avenue. Purchased in 1930, it is one of the oldest in the country and is of great historical value since few were manufactured and those that were have long since disappeared.

The transmitter is a Western Electric Type 9-A with a linear output stage of 400 watts. The power supply is W. E. Type 2-A, 3 phase at 220 volts. The original frequency was 1612kc (just below the broadcast band) but was later changed to 2422kc. The antenna was a Marconi "T" type flat top supported by 103 ft. towers.

This transmitter was used at WPDR until late 1948 when it was replaced by modern RCA gear. It was moved from the old brick station house in 1954 and placed on display in the reception lounge of the new modern public safety communication building on Pinnacle Hill. Here it remained for many years until a recent expansion program when it had to be moved.

Clarence Dengler, W2LK, National Police Radio Historian, poses at the abandoned transmitter. The 2-A power supply is at the left and the 9-A transmitter at right. Note the telephone type communication mike.

Fortunately, A.W.A. Director, "Ducky" Dengler, W2LK, (former head of Police and Public Safety Radio), stepped in and with official approval obtained the equipment for the A.W.A. President George Batterson, W2GB, provided the truck and now the 1 ton transmitter is in storage where it will remain until a proper display area can be provided at the club museum in Holcomb.

### NEW GEAR AT A.W.A. MUSEUM

Books - K2POI, Harry Cap, W1AE, W2UDV  
 Receivers - K1WNU, W2EYI, W2IIE and W3YA, Walter Stein  
 Key - J. Haggerty/Barker/Holt  
 Alternator - P. Borsi  
 Transmitter - W2LK  
 Tubes - W2QO, W3CDY  
 Teletype equipment - Ralph Batchner  
 TV transmitter and receiver- K2POI  
 Misc. - W2QO, W3CDY, W2IIE, and Peter Rossmann, K2DQ

# OLD TIME HAM-ADS

WANTED - de Forest items for museum in de Forest's hometown. Art Trauffer (Curator, Lee De Forest Room, The General Dodge House) 120 Fourth St., Council Bluffs, Iowa 51502

FOR SALE or SWAP - huge collection of early amateur and commercial gear plus broadcast receivers - most in excellent condition. Also have large collection of magazines and catalogs. Send for list or state your wants. Will ship but prefer you see in advance and pickup. Write Bill Laverty, 118 N. Wycombe Ave., Lansdowne, Penna.

SWAP - copies of "The Modulator" and "Amateur Radio" (published by 2nd Amateur Radio District in 1921-25) - also have 'Consolidated Radio Call Book-1922. Want early ham parts, tuners, spark coil, gap, etc. Frank Atlee, K2PI, 1011 Eldridge Ave., W. Collingswood (6), New Jersey

WILL TRADE - Wm. B. Duck catalog #16, RCA UV-204A with socket, Eimac VT-108, Mershon Conds., Edison 1910 "Gem" cylinder phonograph, books on television by Jenkins, etc. Looking for enclosed variable condensers - "Beeko", "Boston", "Elco"; also want Litz loop antenna wire (green) and book "Eidonia" pub. 1904, tubes-deForest 4 pin CF-185, Tigerman, Dietzen diode and early light bulbs. Floyd Lyons, Elks Club, 456 Post St., San Francisco, Calif.

SWAP or SELL - large collection of early radio books and magazines. Send large business size self-addressed stamped envelope for list. Ed Raser, W2ZI, 19 Blackwood Drive, Trenton, N.J., 08628

WANTED - Wm. Murdock OT, a binocular type coil for a Grebe Synchrophase receiver and a 1" or larger spark coil.

Oren Gambill, W5WI, 3710 E. 36 St., Tulsa, Oklahoma

FOR SALE or SWAP - over 100 pieces of early equipment - both amateur and BC. Write me your wants. Bill Travers, Box 365, Pollock Pines, Calif.

WANTED - Wireless Speciality IP-501 and other ship receivers. Will trade Marconi gear, 1912 Call book and Duck catalogs.

Harry Cap, 190 Beach St., Bridgewater, Mass.

FOR SALE - large collection of early receivers, speakers, tubes and other antique equipment. Send SASE for list.

Paul Giganti, W6GVY, 2429 San Carlos Avenue, San Carlos, Calif.

SWAP or will pay cash for a Marconi 106 receiver. What are your wants?

Jack Gray, W8JDV, Church St., Mason, Ohio.

WANTED - knowledge of the whereabouts of H.J. Meldrum, who was operator at WBF in 1912. Address in 1944 was 440 West 34th St., N.Y.C. Write: Jerry Tyne, 40 Kline Place South, Berkely Heights, New Jersey, 07922

FOR SALE - mint rolls of Litz magnet wire on original wooden spools (1 lb. plus) #30 DSC white. L.J. Schnedorf, W9EWK, 610 Monroe Ave., River Forest, Illinois, 60305

SWAP or SELL - old gear, misc. small parts, dials, trans., BC receivers, magazines, etc. circa 1920-30. Send SASE to W2CE, 55 East Bedell St., Freeport, New York

WANTED - Pilot Super Wasp receiver with coils or parts for same. Will pay any reasonable price. Leslie Consterdine, W8CUP, 248 North Elk St., Sandusky, Michigan.

SELL or SWAP - "Modern Electrics" - 1910-Apr., 1911-Jan., Feb., Mar., May, June, July, Aug., Sept., Nov. and Dec., 1913: Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., June, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., and Dec., Write W6YFM, Erv Rasmussen, 164 Lowell St., Redwood City, California

WANTED - 1st Edition 1919 of book "The Thermionic Valve and Its Development" by J.A. Fleming. Also, "Manual of Radiotelegraphy and Radiotelephony" by J.A. Fleming. L.J. Schnedorf, W9EWK, 610 Monroe Ave., River Forest, Ill., 60305

WANTED - Loudspeaker unit for Sonora 1925 speaker- will buy entire speaker if nec. Charles Henry, 6705 Caldwell Ave., Chicago, Ill., 60646

## DE FOREST MUSEUM

The de Forest room in Council Bluffs recently received a complete 1930 deForest scanning-disc television receiver from Walter A. Jones of Murray, Utah. The Council Bluffs Amateur Radio Club picked up the tab for its purchase. Other interesting items include a mint copy of the book "Father of Radio" from Vance Phillips (W6GH). Vance also donated two fine 16"x 20" photographic enlargements - one of the de Forest wireless tower at the 1904 St. Louis Exposition -- and the other showing de Forest in his Hollywood office holding a responder and a spherical audion owned by Vance. W6GH owns the original glass plate negative of the de Forest wireless tower at the 1904 Exposition....